

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently amended) In combination for providing for the propulsion of a
movable element,

a tee mechanism including a tee normally disposed in a rest position and movable
5 upwardly to an operative position,

a motor for raising the tee from the rest position to the operative position and for
lowering the tee from the operative position to the rest position,

a ~~[[motor]]~~ [[ramp]] for transferring the element to the tee during the movement
of the tee upwardly from the rest position to the operative position, ~~[[and]]~~

10 a receiver responsive to signals transmitted to the tee for energizing the tee to
raise the tee from the rest position to the operative position~~[[.]]~~ [[.]] ~~[[and]]~~

first and second ganged switches each having first and second positions, the first
switch being closed in the first position to provide for a downward movement of the tee by the
motor and the second switch being closed in the second position to provide for an upward
15 movement of the tee by the . motor.

2. (Currently amended) In combination as set forth in claim 1 wherein

a propulsion member is provided for the propulsion of the element on the tee
when the tee is disposed in the operative position and the element is on the tee and wherein

a detent is disposed on the ramp and is provided with first and second positions
20 and is operative in the second position to provide for the transfer of the element from the ramp to
the tee and is operative in the first position to prevent the transfer of the element from the ramp
to the tee.

3. (Currently amended) In combination as set forth in claim 2 wherein

a transmitter is disposed inside the propulsion member and a switch is disposed on the propulsion member to provide for the transmission of signals from the transmitter to the receiver when the switch on the propulsion member is closed and wherein

5 a microprocessor is provided to move the detent from the first position to the second position during the upward movement of the tee.

4. (Currently amended) In combination as set forth in claim 1 wherein

circuitry is associated with the first and second switches and is responsive in the tee ~~mechanism~~ to the movement of the tee from the operative position to the rest position for
10 reversing the direction of movement of the tee to move the tee upwardly from the rest position to the operative position.

5. (Currently amended) In combination as set forth in claim [[2]] [[3]] wherein

a propulsion member is provided for the propulsion of the element on the tee when the tee is disposed in the operative position and the element is on the tee and wherein

15 a transmitter is disposed inside the propulsion member and a switch is disposed on the propulsion member to provide for the transmission of signals from the transmitter to the receiver when the switch on the propulsion member is closed and wherein

circuitry is associated with the first and second switches and [[is]] responsive in the tee to the movement of the tee from the operative position to the rest position for reversing
20 the direction of movement of the tee to move the tee upwardly from the rest position to the operative position.

6. (Currently amended) In a combination as set forth in claim 1 wherein

~~[[The]]~~ the movable element is a ball and the movable element is propelled by a bat and wherein

the ramp is provided to receive the ball and provide for the movement of the ball

5 on the tee and wherein

a detent is disposed on the ramp and is movable between first and second positions and is normally disposed in the first position to prevent the ball from becoming disposed on the tee and is movable to the second position to provide for the movement of the ball to the tee and wherein

10 the detent is moved to the second position during the upward movement of the tee to provide for a movement of the ball on the ramp to the tee and wherein

a microprocessor is provided to obtain the movement of the ball to the tee during the upward movement of the tee.

7. (Currently amended) In combination for providing for the propulsion of a

15 movable element,

a base,

a housing extending upwardly from the base,

a tee disposed in the housing and movable between a lower rest position and an upper operative position,

20 the tee being constructed at its upper end to hold the movable element for propulsion from the tee, ~~[[and]]~~

a motor for moving the tee between the lower rest position and the upper operative position~~[[,]]~~

a ramp for holding the element and for providing for a movement of the element to the tee.

a detent disposed on the ramp and movable between first and second positions and operative in the second position to provide for a movement of the element to the tee and
5 operative in the first position to prevent the movement of the element to the tee, the detent being
normally in the first position and being movable to the second position during the upward
movement of the tee, and

a microprocessor for providing for the movement of the detent from the first position to the second position during the upward movement of the tee.

10 8. (Original) In a combination as set forth in claim 7,

switches disposed relative to the housing to reverse the operative direction of the motor when the tee reaches individual ones of the rest and operative positions.

9. (Currently amended) In a combination as set forth in claim [[7]] [[8]] wherein

15 a receiver is ~~included in~~ associated with the tee ~~mechanism~~ for energizing the motor, upon the reception of signals by the receiver, to raise the tee from the rest position to the operative position and wherein

the switches constitute first and second ganged switches each having open and closed positions and wherein

20 the first switch is closed in the rest position of the tee to provide for an upward movement of the tee by the motor from the rest position to the operative position and the second switch is closed in the operative position of the tee to provide for the movement of the tee by the motor from the operative position to the rest position of the tee.

10. (Currently amended) In a combination as set forth in claim 7 wherein

a ramp is disposed relative to the tee and is constructed to transfer the movable element to the tee as the tee is moving upwardly from the rest position to the operative position and wherein

5 a detent is disposed on the ramp and is movable between first and second positions and is operative in the first position to prevent the movable element from being transferred from the ramp to the tee and is operative in the second position to provide for the transfer of the movable element from the ramp to the tee.

11. (Currently amended) In a combination as set forth in claim 8 wherein

10 a receiver is supported by the base for energizing the motor, upon the reception of signals by the receiver, to raise the tee from the rest position to the operative position and wherein

a ramp is disposed relative to the tee and [[is]] constructed to transfer the element to the tee as the tee is moving upwardly from the rest position of the tee to the operative position of the tee and wherein

15 a microprocessor is responsive to the upward movement of the tee to provide for the transfer of the element to the tee.

12. (Currently amended) In a combination as set forth in claim 11 wherein

the movable element is a ball and the ball is propelled by a bat and wherein

20 a detent is disposed on the ramp and is provided with first and second positions and is movable between the first and second positions to prevent the movable element from being transferred to the tee in the first position and to provide for the transfer of the element to the tee in the second position.

13. (Currently amended) In a combination as set forth in claim ~~[[8]]~~ ~~[[12]]~~ wherein
[[a]] ~~[[the]]~~ ramp is disposed relative to the tee and ~~[[is]]~~ constructed to transfer
the movable element to the tee as the tee is moving upwardly from the rest position to the
operative position and wherein

5 a receiver is ~~included in~~ associated with the tee ~~mechanism~~ for energizing the
motor, upon the reception of signals by the receiver, to raise the tee from the rest position to the
operative position and wherein

the detent is operated by the microprocessor at a particular position during the
upward movement of the tee to dispose the detent in the second position for a movement of the
10 element to the tee.

14. (Currently amended) In combination for providing for the propulsion of a
movable element,

a member for providing a propulsion of the movable element, the member
including a circuit including a switch and a transmitter for transmitting signals upon the closure
15 of the switch,

a tee movable between a rest position and an operative position, the tee being
disposed in the operative position to position the movable element for propulsion by the member
and being disposed in the rest position to prevent the member from propelling the movable
element, ~~[[and]]~~

20 a motor responsive to the signals transmitted from the member for moving the tee
from the rest position to the operative position and for providing for the positioning of the
movable member on the tee during the movement of the tee from the rest position to the
operative position ~~[[and]]~~

a pair of ganged switches, one operable in the rest position of the tee for obtaining a movement of the tee by the motor upwardly to the operative position of the tee and the other operable in the operative position of the tee for obtaining a movement of the tee downwardly by the motor to the rest position.

5 15. (Currently amended) In a combination as set forth in claim 14,
a ramp for holding the movable element and for transferring the movable element to the tee during the movement of the tee from the rest position to the operative position[[.]]
a detent disposed on the ramp and movable between a first position preventing a
10 movement of the element on the ramp to the tee and a second position providing for a movement
of the element on the ramp to the tee and
a microprocessor responsive to the upward movement of the tee for changing the
position of the detent from the first position to the second position.

15 16. (Currently amended) In a combination as set forth in claim [[14]] [[15]],
the tee being constructed at its upper end to hold the movable element for propulsion by the member and the ramp and the tee being disposed in a co-operative relationship to transfer the movable element from the ramp to the upper end of the tee during the upward movement of the tee from the rest position to the operative position.

20 17. (Original) In a combination as set forth in claim 14,
the ramp being constructed to hold a plurality of the movable elements and to transfer the movable elements in sequence to the upper end of the tee during sequential movements of the tee upwardly from the rest position to the operative position.

18. (Currently amended) In a combination as set forth in claim 15,
a housing for the tee,
a base at the bottom of the housing for disposing the housing on a support surface,
and

5 the tee and a rack gear and a pinion gear disposed in the housing to move the tee
between the rest position and the operative position.

19. (Original) In a combination as set forth in claim 18 wherein
the movable element is a ball and the ball is adapted to be propelled by a bat.

20. (Currently amended) In a combination as set forth in claim 15,
10 the tee being constructed at its upper end to hold the movable element for
propulsion by the member and the ramp and the tee being disposed in a co-operative relationship
to transfer the movable element from the ramp to the upper end of the tee during the upward
movement of the tee from the rest position to the operative position, and

the ramp being constructed to hold a plurality of the elements and to transfer the
15 movable elements in sequence to the upper end of the tee during sequential movements of the tee
upwardly from the rest position to the ~~[[top]]~~ operative position.

21. (Original) In a combination as set forth in claim 16,
the tee being constructed at its upper end to hold the movable element for
propulsion by the member and the ramp and the tee being disposed in a co-operative relationship
20 to transfer the movable element from the ramp to the upper end of the tee during the upward
movement of the tee from the rest position to the operative position,

a housing for the tee, and

a base at the bottom of the housing.

22. (Currently amended) In combination for providing for the propulsion of a movable member,

a base,

a housing extending upwardly from the base,

5 a tee disposed in the housing and having a rest position and an operative position above the rest position and movable between the rest and operative positions,

the tee being constructed at its upper end to receive and hold the movable element during the upward movement of the tee from the rest position to the operative position, ~~[[and]]~~

a ramp positioned relative to the tee and constructed to hold the movable element
10 and to transfer the movable element to the upper end of the tee during the upward movement of the tee from the rest position to the operative position~~[[,]]~~

a pair of ganged switches one closed at the rest position and opened at the operative position and the other opened at the rest position and closed at the operative position,

circuitry associated with the ganged switches to provide initially for a movement
15 downwardly of the tee to the rest position and then for a movement upwardly of the tee to the operative position,

a detent on the ramp, the detent having first and second positions on the ramp and being operative in the first position to prevent the element from being transferred to the tee and being operative in the second position to provide for the transfer of the element to the tee, and

20 a microprocessor responsive to the upward movement of the tee to a particular position for providing for a movement of the detent to the second position.

23. (Currently amended) In a combination as set forth in claim 22,
a motor coupled to the tee and included in the circuitry for moving the tee
between the rest position and the operative position.

24. (Currently amended) In a combination as set forth in claim 23,
a pinion gear disposed in a co-operative relationship with the motor for rotation in
accordance with the rotation of the motor, and
a rack gear coupled to the tee and the pinion gear for moving the tee ~~upwardly~~
between ~~[[from]]~~ the rest position ~~[[to]]~~ and the operative position in accordance with the
operation of the motor.

25. (Currently amended) In a combination as set forth in claim 23,
a propulsion member for propelling the movable element,
a switch disposed on the propulsion member and having operative and inoperative
relationships, and
a transmitter disposed in the propulsion member in a circuit with the switch for
transmitting signals to the tee in the operative relationship of the switch to provide for an
energizing of the motor.

26. (Currently amended) In a combination as set forth in claim 23,
a pinion gear disposed in a co-operative relationship with the motor for rotation in
accordance with the rotation of the motor,
a rack gear coupled to the tee and the pinion gear for moving the tee ~~upwardly~~
~~from~~ between the rest position ~~[[to]]~~ and the operative position in accordance with the operation
of the motor,
a propulsion member for propelling the movable element,

a switch disposed on the propulsion member and having operative and inoperative relationships, and

a transmitter disposed in the propulsion member in a circuit with the switch for transmitting signals to the tee in the ~~operative relationship~~ closed position of the switch to
5 provide for an energizing of the motor.

27. (Currently amended) In a combination as set forth in claim 28 ~~herein~~ wherein
the movable element is a ball and the ball is adapted to be propelled by a bat.